# Highly pathogenic avian influenza in Estonia

### Cases of wild birds in 2022

- Positive cases of wild birds:
- 2 swans (H5N1)
- In total 106 samples from wild birds and 9 samples from mammals (6 foxes, 2 martens, 1 raccoon dog)



 Until the date of the 22nd of March 2023 there has not been any positive HPAI cases in wild birds

# **HPAI** in domestic birds (1)

The poultry farm had 161 birds:

- 117 laying hens,
- 19 ducks,
- 11 geese,
- 10 pigeons,
- 4 peacocks.



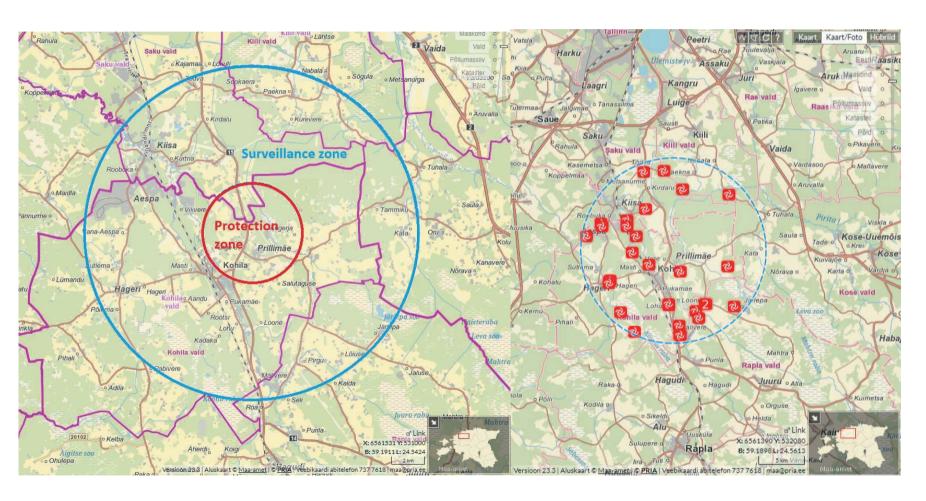
# **HPAI** in domestic birds (2)

- On the 15th of February 1 laying hen suddenly died. The owner sent the dead laying hen by herself to the laboratory and wanted the laying hen to be analysed bacteriologically and parasitologically. There was mortality amongst the laying hens, but the reason was thought to be feeding of food waste containing salt
- The pathologist did the necropsy. The hen did not have any pathological findings to suspect HPAI. Apparently, in the case of this hen, the course of the disease was extremely acute, because no other pathologies were detected either
- By the 17th of February 16 laying hens had also died
- The laboratory started to suspect HPAI on the 28th of February when the owner called again and reported the death of other bird species (3 geese, 3 peacocks and 1 duck) on the farm (increased mortality)
- The day of suspicion of HPAI for AFB was 1st of March then the laboratory sent the analyses report with the confirmation of avian influenza subtype H5N1. High pathogenicity was confirmed on the 3rd of March
- Samples taken on the 1st of March from 5 laying hens, 1 peacock, 1 goose and 1 pigeon were positive for serotype H5N1.

# **HPAI** in domestic birds (3)

- Measures taken by AFB:
- Restrictions on the farm, epidemiological investigation, notification
- Zoning and restrictions on the farms in the zones
- Stamping out and destruction of the carcasses
- Cleaning and disinfection of the farm
  - Possible source of infection: virus transmission from wild birds.
     Some of the birds had access to outdoors. The owner did not implement biosecurity measures like changing the clothes, disinfection.

# HPAI in domestic birds (3) Location of the farms and zones

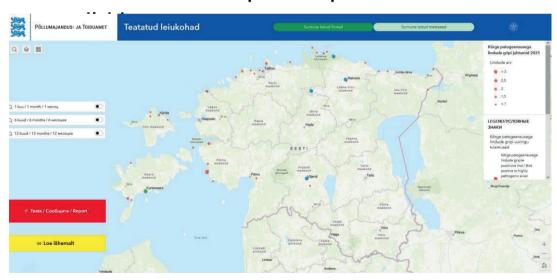


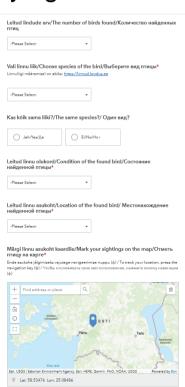
# Following actions:

 Pursuant to the Decree of the Director General of AFB keeping of domestic birds outdoors is prohibited, unless the poultry are protected against contact with wild birds (e.g. with nets, roofs, horizontal fabrics or by other appropriate means) or the poultry are supplied with feed and water indoors or under a shelter which sufficiently discourages the access of wild birds.

# Internet application for notification

- Launched on 30.09.2021
- Allows hunters and public to notify about finding of dead wild bird
- Accessible via mobile phone, pc or tablet
- In addition a separate phone number for notifying dead birds or





# Awareness campaign

- Leaflets by e-mail directly to farmers and others dealing with birds
- TV, radio, press notices
- Special webpage
   https://pta.agri.ee/eestis-levib-lindude-gripp
- Special column on webpage of AFB





# Thank you!